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OLC 75-2635

16 October 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Action to be Taken With the House and Senate Committees With Respect to the Community and CIA Budgets

REFERENCE : Memorandum for the Record by [redacted] 25X1
dtd 14 October 1975, subj: Directives in House Appropriations Committee Report

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1. [redacted] memorandum points out, with further emphasis, the report I gave to you of my conversation with Charles Snodgrass following your last meeting with the House Appropriations Defense Subcommittee on 6 October 1975. I have some doubt as to whether the statements made by Snodgrass to me and to Jack Iams and [redacted] reflect the unanimous feelings of the members of the Defense Subcommittee. In fact, I have some doubt as to whether the majority of the members of that Subcommittee have either focused on the details of the report or would agree with the strict interpretation which Snodgrass is giving it. Three offices (Comptroller, IC Staff, and OLC) are directly involved and most of the Directorates are affected one way or the other. I am not presuming to call the shots on the substance involved, but would suggest the following tactics:

a. That I make arrangements for you to meet with the Defense Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee at the earliest possible date so that you can discuss not only the specific cuts made by the Committee, but also the philosophy and interpretation of the letter to OMB.

b. That IC Staff and Comptroller prepare a letter or letters to Senator McClellan [redacted] issue is settled) which would take issue with the House letter and the specific

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cuts recommended. In that letter, we should also request an opportunity to meet with the Senate Subcommittee if it wishes (your meeting with Senators McClellan and Young may have already served this purpose).

c. That IC Staff, Comptroller, and OLC collaborate in drafting a suggested report (also in the form of a letter to OMB) to be submitted to Senator McClellan as Chairman of the Intelligence Operations Subcommittee. I have spoken to Guy McConnell about the problem presented to us by the House letter and have floated with him the idea of having the Senate include some formal statement which could be construed as an overall rebuttal of the House letter. I didn't pin him down on this at the time, however, I would suggest something like, "The report of the Defense Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee does not reflect the views of the Committee." We can then proceed to a rebuttal of the House cuts on a program by program basis.

2. We might not be successful in this effort, but I think it is worth trying, especially since we made a point in our discussion with Senators McClellan and Young of the construction which is being given to the House report by their staff. If you agree, I will get together with Jack Iams and [redacted] and prepare the necessary papers.

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[redacted]

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George L. Cary
Legislative Counsel

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